Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 043060 ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 INSE-00 ISO-00 /006 R

DRAFTED BY HA/ORM:JBROH-KAHN:BA APPROVED BY HA/ORM:SCLOWMAN INS:DYOUNG (PHONE)

-----083704 181747Z /64

R 172323Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS STATE 043060

HONG KONG FOR INS DIDIR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, TH

SUBJECT: IPP-77 LAND CAMP PROGRAM

REF: A. HONG KONG 2067; B. BANGKOK 4362 NOTAL; C. BANGKOK 4437 NOTAL; D. STATE 38477

- 1. REF B STATED THAT AS OF FEB 13, 2,365 ALIEN NUMBERS HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO INLAND CAMP REFUGEES AND AN ADDITIONAL 424 IN CATEGORIES III AND IV HAD RECEIVED CONDITIONAL APPROVAL. REF B ADDED THAT POST EXPECTED TO EXCEED 4,000 ALIEN NUMBERS BY FEB 20 AND FINISH INS INTERVIEWS BY MID-MARCH.
- 2. IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONCLUDE INS PHASE OF PROGRAM BY MID-MARCH WHEN TDY OF INS OFFICERS SCHEDULED TO END. WE WONDER, HOWEVER, IF THIS TARGET CAN BE ACHIEVED WHEN ONLY 2365 A NUMBERS PLUS 424 CONDITIONAL A NUMBERS WERE UNCLASSIFIED

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ISSUED FROM BEGINNING OF PROGRAM MID-JANUARY THROUGH MID-FEBRUARY. IN OTHER WORDS, PACE SO FAR WILL HAVE TO BE ACCELERATED TO MEET TARGET DATE.

3. WE ALSO WONDER IF THERE IS ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN POINT MADE REF C ABOUT MEDICAL EXAMS FOR INS OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO THAILAND AND APPARENTLY SLOW PACE OF INS

INTERVIEWS SO FAR. ALTERNATIVELY, HAVE CASES BEEN ADEQUATELY DOCUMENTED BEFORE PRESENTATION TO INS? IN SHORT, ARE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO BOTH INS AND POST TO CONCLUDE INS INTERVIEWS BY MID-MARCH? IF THERE ARE ANY DIFFICULTIES, DEPT AND INS MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE. HOWEVER, INS/CO FEELS NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS PER INS OFFICER COULD BE DOUBLED. PLEASE ADVISE WHAT ADDITIONAL ACTION MAY BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE PROGRAM BY TARGET DATE.

4. RE SUGGESTION REF A REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF CAT III CASES, INS/CO AND STATE CONCUR THAT INS SHOULD CONTINUE PRESENT PRACTICE OF INTERVIEWING CAT III REFUGEES ALONG WITH THOSE IN CAT I AND II AND GIVING CONDITIONAL APPROVALS TO CAT III CASES. AS STATED REF D, WE LEAVE IT UP TO BANGKOK TO ENSURE THAT ALL QUALIFIED CAT I AND II CASES ARE PRESENTED TO INS BEFORE REMAINING A NUMBERS CAN BEGIN TO BE CONFERRED ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED CAT III CASES. THERE IS NO NEED FOR WASHINGTON TO APPROVE THIS ACTION, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING WHEN THIS POINT REACHED, AS SUGGESTED REF A. VANCE

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